Inclusion of representatives of SCs/STs and Minorities in Selection Board/Committees

1000. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether instruction of Government of India of August, 1990 for inclusion of representatives of SC/ST and Minorities in the Selection Committees/Boards have been implemented by his Ministry;

(b) if so, what are the details of such bodies and organisations under his Ministry where the instructions have been implemented;

(c) what are the names of the bodies which have not implemented the instructions so far and the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government/Institutions in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (d) All attached and subordinate offices, Public Sector undertakings etc., under the administrative control of the Ministry have been directed to include a representative of SCs/STs and Minorities on the Selection Committees and Boards, constituted for making recruitment. The matter is monitored from time to time.

Supply of cotton at controlled price to the Handloom weavers

1001. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that handloom sector which employs 15 lakh workers is given only Rs. 35 crores by way of subsidy on raw cotton yarn compared to mills which are given Rs. 285 crores subsidy;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures Government are taking to supply raw cotton yarn at controlled prices to handloom weavers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Government do not subsidise the prices of cotton yarn consumed either in the handloom sector or in the mill sector.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Central Government have arrangements of standing nature to ensure the regular supply of hank yarn to the handloom weavers at reasonable prices through various measures, such as (i) The Hank Yarn Obligation Scheme which requires every producer of yarn to pack at least 50 per cent of the total yarn packed for civil consumption in hank form; (ii) Loan assistance through National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) for setting up of new Weavers' Cooperative Spinning Mills and expanding the capacity of existing weavers' cooperative spinning mills in order to augment captive production for the handloom sector; (iii) Setting up of the National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) with the primary objective of supplying hank yarn to weavers at reasonable prices; (iv) Constitution of State Level Yarn Price Fixation Committees to regulate selling prices of hank yarn produced by cooperative and State sector mills for supplies to the handloom weavers; and (v) Complete exemption of excise duty on plain reeled hank yarn and levy of concessional rate of excise duty on double cross reel hank yarn in order to make available yarn to handloom weavers at reasonable prices.

Production and export of cotton and Textiles

1002. SHRI S.K.T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 273 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th November, 1991 and state:

(a) whether India has reached self sufficiency in the production of cotton